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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 026083/0138

Group Art Unit: 1616

In re patent application of

Hans Ulrich Stilz et al.

Serial No. 08/971,960

Examiner: S. Qazi

Filed: November 17, 1997

For: 5-MEMBERED RING HETEROCYCLES AS INHIBITORS OF LEUCOCYTE ADHESION AND AS VLA-4 ANTAGONISTS

**AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR
RECONSIDERATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
BOX AF

Sir:

In response to the outstanding Office Action mailed May 14, 1999, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-20 and 25-38 without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants reserve the right to file one or more continuing applications directed to their subject matter.

Please rewrite the following claims:

21. (amended) A method for suppressing inflammation comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of [the preparation as claimed in claim 1] a preparation comprising an effective amount of at least one compound of the formula I: